

PATENT  
988.1006

1 CLAIM LISTING

2 1 - 10 Canceled

3 11. (New) A method including:

4 (a) storing a group of game records and a reserve group of game records at a storage  
5 device, each respective game record being associated with a game result for that  
6 respective game record;

7 (b) in response to a game play request, reading a selected game record from the group  
8 of game records and notifying a respective player associated with the game play  
9 request of the game result associated with the selected game record from the  
10 group of game records;

11 (c) modifying a stored account balance for the respective player associated with the  
12 game play request, the stored account balance modification being made in  
13 accordance with the game play request and in accordance with the game result  
14 associated with the selected game record from the group of game records;

15 (d) in response to a subsequent game play request received after a certain amount of  
16 game records from the group of game records have been used, reading a selected  
17 game record from the reserve group of game records, and notifying a respective  
18 player associated with the subsequent game play request of the game result  
19 associated with the selected game record from the reserve group of game records;  
20 and

PATENT  
988.1006

(e) modifying a stored account balance for the respective player associated with the subsequent game play request, the stored account balance for the respective player associated with the subsequent game play request being modified in accordance with the subsequent game play request and in accordance with the game result associated with the selected game record from the reserve group of game records.

12. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein the step of storing the group of game records and the reserve group of game records is performed at a respective computer and the step of modifying each stored account balance is performed at a database computer separate from the respective computer.

13. (New) The method of claim 12 further including the steps of storing a set of game records at a manufacturing computer and dividing the set of game records into multiple subsets of game records.

14. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the group of game records and the reserve group of game records each comprise a respective subset of game records selected from the set of game records.

PATENT  
988.1006

- 1      15.    (New) A method including:
- 2            (a)    producing a number of game records at a manufacturing computer;
- 3            (b)    communicating a first subset of the game records from the manufacturing
- 4                   computer to a first central computer and storing the first subset of game records at
- 5                   the central computer;
- 6            (c)    storing a number of player accounts at a database computer separate from the
- 7                   manufacturing computer and separate from the first central computer, each player
- 8                   account being associated with a respective player and having a respective account
- 9                   balance; and
- 10          (d)    in response to a game play request for a first player having a respective player
- 11                   account, reading a selected one of the game records stored at the first central
- 12                   computer, modifying the respective player account for the first player at the
- 13                   database computer in accordance with the game play request and a result
- 14                   associated with the selected game record, and notifying the first player of the
- 15                   result associated with the selected game record.
- 16
- 17      16.    (New) The method of claim 15 further including communicating a second subset of game
- 18                   records to a second central computer located at a gaming facility where the first central
- 19                   computer is also located.
- 20

PATENT  
988.1006

1 17. (New) The method of claim 16 further including, in response to a game play request for a  
2 second player having a respective player account, reading a respective one of the game  
3 records stored at the second central computer, modifying the respective player account for  
4 the second player at the database computer in accordance with the game play request and  
5 a result associated with the respective game record, and notifying the first player of the  
6 result associated with the respective game record.  
7

8 18. (New) The method of claim 15 further including:

9 (a) in response to player information received at the first central computer, creating a  
10 respective account for a player associated with the player information, the account  
11 being created at the database computer; and

12 (b) in response to additional player information received at the second central  
13 computer, creating a respective account for the player associated with the  
14 additional player information, the account for the player associated with the  
15 additional player information being created at the database computer.  
16

17 19. (New) The method of claim 15 further including:

18 (a) in response to a first added funds value received at the first central computer,  
19 modifying a respective account associated with the first added funds value at the  
20 database computer; and

PATENT  
988.1006

(b) in response to a second added funds value received at the second central computer, modifying a respective account associated with the second added funds value at the database computer.

20. (New) The method of claim 15 further including:

- (a) in response to a first cash out request received at the first central computer, cashing out a respective account associated with the first cash out request at the database computer; and
- (b) in response to a second cash out request received at the second central computer, cashing out a respective account associated with the second cash out request at the database computer.

21. (New) A gaming system including:

- (a) a first central computer having a game record storage device storing a first group of game records;
- (b) a database computer in communication with the first central computer, the database computer having a database storage device storing a number of player accounts, each player account associated with a respective player;
- (c) a number of first player terminals in communication with the first central computer, each first player terminal for transmitting a respective player account modification request to the first central computer; and

PATENT  
988.1006

(d) wherein the first central computer is configured to respond to a received player account modification request by directing the database computer to modify a respective player account associated with the received player account modification request.

22. The gaming system of claim 21 further including a manufacturing computer in communication with the first central computer, the manufacturing computer having a respective storage device for storing a number of subsets of game records, each subset being divided from an initial set of game records.

23. The gaming system of claim 22 further including:

- (a) a second central computer in communication with the manufacturing computer and having a second game record storage device storing a second group of game records, the second group of game records comprising a respective one of the subsets initially stored at the manufacturing computer, and the second central computer being located at a gaming facility at which the first central computer is also located;
- (b) a number of second player terminals in communication with the second central computer, each second player terminal for transmitting a respective player account modification request to the second central computer; and

PATENT  
988.1006

1 (c) wherein the second central computer is configured to respond to a given player  
2 account modification request from one of the second player terminals by directing  
3 the database computer to modify a respective player account associated with the  
4 given player account modification request.  
5

6 24. The gaming system of claim 21 wherein the first game record storage device associated  
7 with the first central computer stores a first reserve group of game records in addition to  
8 the first group of game records and wherein the first central computer is adapted for  
9 selecting a game record from the first reserve group of game records once a certain  
10 number of game records have been used from the first group of game records.